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Historical Commission Minutes 05-06-2003

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday,
6 May 2003
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:30 PM

Call to Order: Robert Botterio, presiding, with commissioners Jane Becker, Patrick Guthrie, Eric Stange, and JoAnn Robinson.

Review of minutes of 1 April 2003: approved.

Communications Received-first, from Mr. Botterio:

Louise Ivers phone call to cancel her hearing regarding 128 Brattle Lane due to uncertainties over her plans for the property.

Inquiries regarding 22 Nourse Street and 15-17 Hillside Ave. Neither property is on the inventory.

Historical marker follow-up: Inquiry regarding sign for 96 Jason-Frank Sawyer House (1896). Mr. Botterio will pass info. To the sign painter.

Mr. Botterio shared info. from the Mass Historical Commission web site regarding window replacement and a comparison of Mass. Towns' inventories and demolition by-laws.

Related Activities of other Town Boards (Historic Districts, Preservation Fund, Zoning, By-Law Review, Community Preservation Act Study Committee, others)

Ms. Robinson reported cost estimates on conservation and maintenance for four town-owned bronze sculptures: (details to come from JR). Discussion followed on possible ways to secure funding, including splitting costs with Dallin Museum.

Mr. Botterio reported Historic Districts Commission has a new secretary. He is pursuing scheduling a joint meeting between the HDC and the AHC to discuss issues of historic preservation.

Mr. Guthrie reported that the Preservation Fund issued a loan of \$30,000.

Ms. Robinson reported briefly on the Community Preservation Act Study Committee.

Ms. Meister reported briefly on the Zoning By-Law Review.

Projects proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:

1167 Mass. Ave. (Mirak) 9/00: Botterio-no information

23 Maple Street (Town of Arlington) 11/00: Robinson-no information.

35 Bailey Road (Weil): Botterio-completed.

3-5 Brattle Street (Fertman) 4/02: Stange-roofing in progress.

1 Kensington Road (Rowe) 7/02: Guthrie: new railing in place, and new skylight. Garage appears completed.

5-11 Water Street (Rowe, tr'ee. of Waterpower Trust) 7/02: Botterio-window replacement begun on rear.

22 Brantwood Road (Blass) 1/03: Stange-work underway.
30-32 Addison Street (Pitts) 3/03: Ruderman-no information.
29 Academy Street (Becker); not begun yet.

Continuing Projects

Whittemore-Robbins House (and outbuildings): Botterio-exterior painting bids out.

Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson-fountain parts to be shipped to Canada for restoration.

Inventory Expansion and Review: Botterio reports that Mr. Duffy is still waiting for Massachusetts Historical Commission acknowledgment of our submission of inventory forms for 18 new properties, and documentation on 8 others previously included, all according to Mr. Duffy's customary and exemplary research. Also, Mr. Duffy will send the Arlington Historical Commission a draft of a letter to be sent to homeowners whose properties are being added to the inventory.

Board received and briefly reviewed Mr. Duffy's extensive and detailed survey of the Symmes property, which has been added to the inventory.

Education/Outreach: Stange submitted a draft press release to be sent to the Advocate for the purpose of enlisting potential associate members.

.Old Schwamb Mill: no news.

Brief discussion of Park Circle fire station.

New Business

No hearings were held.

Stange reported on Town Government Day, May 1: Two high school students joined him on tour of the W-R House conducted by Patsy Kraemer; and spent approximately one hour discussing the work of the Commission.

Becker discussed the plan by Academy Street residents to survey the area for possible Historic District Commission, and possibilities of securing funding to help pay for the survey.

Ms. Robinson briefly discussed articles on historic preservation distributed at last meeting. Mr. Stange provided copies of National Park Service preservation guidelines for informational purposes.

Next meeting confirmed for June 3, and this meeting closed at 9:15 PM.

For the Arlington Historical Commission,
Eric Stange (filling in for A. Michael Ruderman), Commissioner